

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 1, 2020

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

The Honorable Letitia James
Attorney General of New York State
28 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10005

Dear Governor Cuomo and Attorney General James:

As you have both noted continually, the impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is most devastating on senior citizens and individuals with pre-existing conditions. This unfortunate reality has manifested most conspicuously in the pandemic's epicenter of New York, where thousands of nursing home employees and seniors have witnessed the lethality of COVID-19.

However, recent reports suggest that nursing home administrators across the state have abandoned transparency, leaving patients unnerved and their families unenlightened as to the status of their loved ones' health. By withholding important information regarding facility conditions, patients' status, and the accurate number of cases and deaths related to COVID-19 from families and elected officials, nursing home administrators are abnegating their most fundamental duty.

Given the widespread impact of COVID-19 on New York's senior citizen population, and the state's expected chart over the coming months, I respectfully urge you to immediately initiate a comprehensive investigation of the information sharing practices of nursing homes across New York State.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adriano Espaillat', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress